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THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLN. OF: TAFT et al.  
SERIAL NO.: 10/029,658  
FILED: December 20, 2001  
FOR: Method and Apparatus for Preparing Tissue Samples for Sectioning  
GROUP: 1743  
EXAMINER: COLE, MONIQUE DOCKET: VMS 01.01

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Dear Sir:

In connection with the above-entitled matter, Applicants hereby proffer U.S. Patent Office Form PTO-1449, including a copy of the reference listed therein. This reference recently came to the attention of Applicants in connection with a standing watch. The claims in the present application are believed to be patentably distinguished over this reference.

This Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is being made pursuant to the duty of disclosure imposed by law and formulated in 37 CFR 1.56(A). No representation is made that the information thus disclosed in fact constitutes prior art or that it is the closest prior art, inasmuch as 37 CFR 1.56(A) relies on a materiality concept which depends on subjectivity.

Form PTO-2038 authorizing credit card payment in the amount of \$180.00 to cover the fee is enclosed. In the event there are any fee deficiencies or additional fees are payable, please charge them (or credit any overpayment) to our Deposit Account No. 08-1391.

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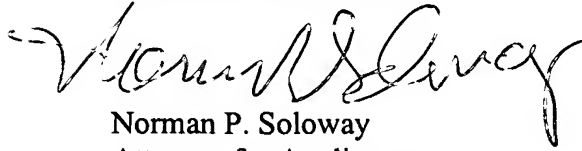
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Respectfully submitted,

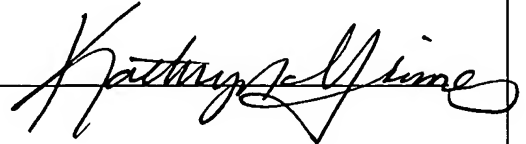


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**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: MAIL STOP AMENDMENT, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on November 18, 2004 at Tucson, Arizona.

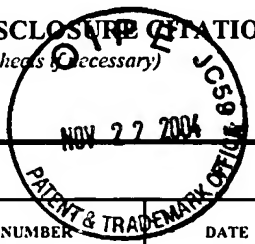
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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION**  
(Use several sheets if necessary)



Docket Number (Optional)

VMS 01.01

Application Number

10/029,658

Applicant(s)

TAFT et al.

Filing Date

December 20, 2001

Group Art Unit

1743

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

| *EXAMINER<br>INITIAL | REF | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE    | NAME   | CLASS | SUBCLASS | FILING DATE<br>IF APPROPRIATE |
|----------------------|-----|-----------------|---------|--------|-------|----------|-------------------------------|
|                      |     | 6,815,199       | 11.9.04 | KUBOTA | 435   | 307.1    |                               |
|                      |     |                 |         |        |       |          |                               |
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|                      |     |                 |         |        |       |          |                               |
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**U.S. PATENT APPLICATION PUBLICATIONS**

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|                      |     |                 |      |      |       |          |                               |
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**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

|  | REF | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | COUNTRY | CLASS | SUBCLASS | Translation |    |
|--|-----|-----------------|------|---------|-------|----------|-------------|----|
|  |     |                 |      |         |       |          | YES         | NO |
|  |     |                 |      |         |       |          |             |    |
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|  |     |                 |      |         |       |          |             |    |
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**OTHER DOCUMENTS** (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

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| EXAMINER | DATE CONSIDERED |
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EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP Section 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.